

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING  
JULY 18, 2022**

The Board of Educational Service Unit #11 of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, held its regular monthly meeting at the Office Building in Holdrege, Nebraska on July 18, 2022 with the following members present: Chris Erickson, Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Linda Leising, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, and Gary Smidt. Nate Stineman was absent.

Notification was made of the Open Meetings Law.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU #11 would be held on July 18, 2022 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU #11 during the week of July 4, 2022 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN. The Public Notice also stated that a current agenda of items to be brought before the Board was available for public inspection in the office of ESU #11 and that reasonable accommodations for individuals with special needs who want to attend the meeting would be provided on request if sufficient advance notice is given.

Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Kim Scoville, to excuse the absence of Nate Stineman. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Mr. Poppert, ESU 11 Administrator, reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the May 16, 2022 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Chris Erickson, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Mary Oman, to approve all policy revisions as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the 2022-23 ESU #11 Staff Handbook as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman,

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yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Mr. Poppert discussed the CSI Lab Coordinator opening and reported that he is continuing his search to fill the position.

Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, reported that the IDEA grant application is due by July 25th and the Maintenance of Effort Eligibility Application is due July 28th so she has been assisting Superintendents with these two applications. She reported that the ESU hosted a Mental Health Institute on May 23rd and 24th. Eustis-Farnam and Franklin participated in the Institute and will be supported by the contract agreement between ESU 11 and NDE. As previously shared, April Overholser will be the ESU staff member working closely with these schools to create and implement their action plans. Lona thanked the ESU Board for allowing her to advocate for special education funding, teacher shortage, and mental health needs in Washington DC during the week of July 11th. The Nebraska Council of School Administrators affiliate, NASES, covers the expenses, but she appreciated the ESU allowing her time to attend.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that ESU 11 offered a graduate class called *Navigating This Thing Called Social Emotional Learning*. Karmen Scharff-Sears was the instructor and seven people attended. ESU 11 is offering a class in September called *Educator Resilience*, with four people registered to date. Kate reported that Summer Honors was held from June 13th through June 24th with 12 offered classes and 113 students participating. Lots of learning and fun took place during the two-week program and 12 out of the 13 ESU 11 school districts were represented. This year the interns created social media accounts and content on all platforms to highlight what Summer Honors is all about. You can follow Summer Honors on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and TikTok.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported on the recent announcement of the Nebraska GEER (Governor's Emergency Education Relief) funding program focused on ConnectEd and expanding broadband infrastructure. Each participating entity is eligible for up to \$8,000 in reimbursements for broadband infrastructure and broadband expansion. Wade mentioned that all thirteen ESU 11 districts signed the ConnectEd participation agreement and also agreed to participate in the ESU 11 GEER consortium to make the purchasing and reimbursement process simpler. Plans are in the works to purchase an additional server for each district as well as three outdoor wireless access points. Wade provided the Board with an overview of the planned expenditures for this project.

Mr. Poppert, Unit Administrator, reported that he and the ESU 11 Leadership Team met on July 6th to review the Continuous Improvement Plan. They are now working on a formal Strategic Plan for the ESU's five-year review. Mr. Poppert mentioned that he has visited six ESU 11 districts to tour the facilities and get to know the Superintendents and their district needs. He plans to visit the remaining school districts before the end of July. Mr. Poppert is also working on the budget and waiting for county evaluations before finalizing. He plans to have a budget work session with the Board on August 29th.

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The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on August 15, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Richard Phillips, Board President, declared the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary